

1. Introduction

From July 2023 to November 2023, the AESO conducted a Participant Involvement Program (PIP) for the *Opal Gas Project Connection*. The AESO required the legal owner of transmission facilities (TFO), in this case ATCO Electric Ltd., to assist the AESO in providing notification as part of the AESO's PIP.

The AESO's PIP is designed to notify Stakeholders and Indigenous groups in the area where the AESO has reasonably determined that facilities could be installed to implement the AESO's preferred option to respond to the request for system access service.

The AESO's PIP has been conducted in accordance with the requirements of Section 7.1.2, NID12 and Appendix A2 of the current Alberta Utilities Commission (Commission) Rule 007 (AUC Rule 007), effective April 25, 2022.

2. Stakeholder and Indigenous Group Notification

The AESO developed a one-page AESO Need Overview document with the purpose of notifying Stakeholders and Indigenous groups of the following items:

- a description of the need for development;
- a description of the AESO's preferred option to respond to the system access service request;
- identification of the general area where facilities could be installed to implement the AESO's preferred option to respond to the system access service request;
- the AESO's contact information, including telephone, email and website, for further information; and
- the AESO's next steps, including the AESO's intention to consider the project for approval under the Abbreviated Needs Approval Process.

A copy of the Need Overview was posted to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/opal-gas-project-connection-2456/> and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on August 16, 2023. Copies of the Need Overview posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively. The Need Overview was also included with the TFO's project-specific information package that was distributed to Stakeholders, as further described in Section 2.1.

2.1 Stakeholders and Indigenous Groups Notified in the TFO's PIP

The TFO has advised the AESO that its PIP included notification within 800 meters of the proposed transmission line 7LA199 and within 200 m of the proposed alterations to the existing transmission line 7L199, as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 in AUC Rule 007.¹

The TFO notified a total of approximately 80 Stakeholders, of which 20 were classified as private or individual landowners. The other 60 notified Stakeholders are listed below:

- 1334130 Alberta Ltd. c/o Pulse Seismic Inc

¹ ATCO has identified its facility application to be of the type: *Overhead transmission line and new substation development – rural or industrial setting; Minor transmission line replacements within the original right-of-way – rural and industrial; and Overhead or underground transmission line and/or new substation development and/or substation upgrades and/or minor transmission line replacements within the original right-of-way – urban* as categorized in AUC Rule 007, Appendix A1, Section 5.

- Alberta Environment and Protected Areas - Fish and Wildlife - Grande Prairie
- Alberta Environment and Protected Areas - Fish and Wildlife - Whitecourt
- Alberta Forestry and Parks - Edmonton
- Alberta Forestry and Parks - Whitecourt
- Alberta Forestry and Parks – Wildfire Management – Whitecourt
- Alberta Government Telephones c/o Telus Communications Inc.
- Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors
- Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors - Environmental Regulation
- Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors - Grande Prairie
- Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors - Peace River
- Alexander First Nation
- Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation
- Alliance Pipeline Ltd.
- ANC Timber Ltd.
- ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd.
- ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) c/o ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd.
- Athabasca Oil Corporation
- Bell West Inc. c/o Corporate Communications Bell West Inc
- Blue Ridge Lumber Inc
- C Corp (Ontario) Inc c/o Mac's Convenience Stores Inc
- Canfor (Whitecourt) Forest Products Ltd
- Cenovus Energy Inc
- Chevron Canada Limited
- Crescent Point Energy Corp
- Driftpile Cree Nation
- East Prairie Metis Settlement
- Ernie O's Restaurant & Pub (Fox Creek) Inc
- Freson Market Ltd
- Grizzly Resources Ltd
- Kapawe'no First Nation
- Kehewin Cree Nation
- Keyera Energy Ltd
- Kiwetinohk Energy Corp
- Metis Nation of Alberta Region No.4
- Municipal District of Greenview No. 16
- Murphy Oil Company Ltd
- NAV Canada
- Nova Gas Transmission Ltd c/o TransCanada Corporation
- Ovintiv Canada ULC
- Paramount Resources Ltd
- Parkland Corporation/Corporation Parkland
- Peace River Oil Pipe Line Co Ltd. c/o Pembina Pipeline Corporation
- Pembina Pipeline Corporation
- Petro-Canada Inc. c/o Suncor Energy Inc
- PGI Processing ULC
- Saturn Oil & Gas Inc
- Sawridge First Nation
- Secure Energy Services Inc
- Shell Canada Limited
- Sturgeon Lakes Cree Nation
- Sucker Creek First Nation
- Suncor Energy Inc
- Swan River First Nation
- Telus Communications Inc.

- The Alberta Gas Trunk Line Co Ltd c/o TransCanada Corporation
- Total Telecom Fiber Inc c/o Rohl Geomatics Inc
- Town of Fox Creek
- Transport Canada, Civil Aviation
- Whitefish Lake Indian Reserve (Whitefish (Goodfish) Lake First Nation)

Attachment 3 includes the TFO's project newsletter, which was included with the AESO Need Overview in the TFO project-specific information package that was distributed to the Stakeholders described above between July 14, 2023 and July 31, 2023. The TFO's project newsletter included the AESO's contact information, a description of the AESO's role, a reference to the AESO Need Overview, and an invitation to contact the TFO or the AESO for additional information.

3. Notice of ANAP Consideration

Most recently, the AESO notified Stakeholders of its intention to consider the need for the Opal Gas Project Connection to be approved under the AESO's Abbreviated Needs Approval Process, (ANAP) by posting a Notification of ANAP Consideration to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/opal-gas-project-connection-2456/> and a publishing notice in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on November 1, 2023. Copies of the Notification of ANAP Consideration posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 4 and 5, respectively.

4. Responding to Questions and Concerns

To ensure that Stakeholders and Indigenous groups had the opportunity to provide feedback, the AESO provided Stakeholders and Indigenous groups with AESO contact information, including a dedicated, toll-free telephone line (1-888-866-2959) and a dedicated email address (stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca). The AESO Need Overview included this contact information, along with the AESO's mailing address (2500, 330 5th Ave. SW, Calgary) and website address (www.aeso.ca), and a privacy statement that described how the AESO is committed to protecting Stakeholders' privacy.

As directed by the AESO, the TFO was prepared to direct any Stakeholder questions addressed to the AESO, or questions regarding the AESO Need Overview, to the AESO.

5. Questions and Concerns Raised

The TFO has advised the AESO that none of the Stakeholders and Indigenous groups notified by the TFO identified any concerns or objections regarding the AESO's preferred option to respond to the system access service request or the need for development.

The AESO has not received any indication of concerns or objections about the AESO's preferred option to respond to the system access service request or the need for development.

6. List of Attachments

- Attachment 1 – AESO Need Overview (July 2023)
- Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (August 16, 2023)
- Attachment 3 – TFO Project Newsletter – *Kiwetinohk Opal Transmission Project* (June 2023)
- Attachment 4 – AESO Public Notification of ANAP Consideration Posting (November 2023)
- Attachment 5 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Notice of ANAP Consideration (November 1, 2023)

Attachment 1 – AESO Need Overview (July 2023)

Need for the Opal Gas Project Connection in the Fox Creek area

Kiwetinohk Energy Corp. (Kiwetinohk) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its approved Opal Gas Project (Facility) in the Fox Creek area. Kiwetinohk's request can be met by the following solution:

PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 144 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L199 in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

- In late 2023, the AESO may consider the need for this project for approval under section 501.3 of the ISO rules, *Abbreviated Needs Approval Process (ANAP Rule)*, or apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need.
- The AESO will notify stakeholders via the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects prior to the project being considered under the ANAP Rule or prior to filing a needs identification document (NID) application with the AUC.

The following organizations have key roles and responsibilities in providing access to the transmission system:

THE AESO

- Must plan the transmission system and enable access to it for generators and other qualified customers.
- Can approve eligible projects through the ANAP Rule and for non-eligible projects, the AESO will prepare and submit a NID to the AUC for approval.

ATCO

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Fox Creek area.
- Is responsible for detailed siting and routing, constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

WHO IS THE AESO?

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) plans and operates Alberta's electricity grid and wholesale electricity market safely, reliably and in the public interest of all Albertans. We are a not-for-profit organization with no financial interest or investment of any kind in the power industry.

We appreciate your views, both on the need for transmission system development and proposed transmission plans. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us directly.

CONTACT US

Alberta Electric System Operator

AESO Stakeholder Relations
stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca
1-888-866-2959

2500, 330-5th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 0L4
Phone: 403-539-2450

www.aeso.ca | [@theaeso](https://twitter.com/theaeso)

Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (August 16, 2023)



GRID

Need Overview | Opal Gas Project Connection

Kiwetinohk Energy Corp. (Kiwetinohk) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its approved Opal Gas Project (facility) in the Fox Creek area. Kiwetinohk's request can be met by the following solution:

- Add one 144 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the facility to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L199 in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

The AESO has posted a Need Overview for this project on its website. Please [click here](#) to view the document or visit the AESO website at www.aeso.ca and follow the path Grid >Transmission-Projects > Sunnynook Solar Connection (2464).

Attachment 3 – TFO Project Newsletter – *Kiwetinohk Opal Transmission Project* (June 2023)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Your comments and concerns are important to us. Please contact us if you would like to learn more about this project or if you would like to share information with us.

Call us toll free at: **1-855-420-5775**
Or contact the planner directly:

Jenna Jewell
Land Planning
ATCO Electric Ltd.
10035 – 105 Street
Edmonton, AB T5J 1C8

Email: consultation@atcoelectric.com
Website: www.electric.atco.com
Fax: 780-420-5030

Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO)
Phone: 1-888-866-2959
Email: stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca
Website: www.aeso.ca

Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)
Phone: 780-427-4903
(For toll-free, dial 310-0000 first)
Email: consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca
Website: www.auc.ab.ca



Approval Process

Alberta's electrical system is regulated by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC), an independent agency of the province that ensures the fair and responsible delivery of utility services. Before ATCO can begin construction on a project, the AUC must approve the facility application, which includes details such as location of electric transmission facilities and routes. For more information about how you can participate in the AUC approval process, please refer to the enclosed AUC brochure, *Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications*

Next Steps

The consultation process for this project is ongoing. Please let us know if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions regarding this Project. You can provide feedback and share other information by contacting us (toll free) at **1-855-420-5775** or by email at consultation@atcoelectric.com.

ATCO

SHAPE the conversation

June 2023

KIWETINOHK OPAL TRANSMISSION PROJECT

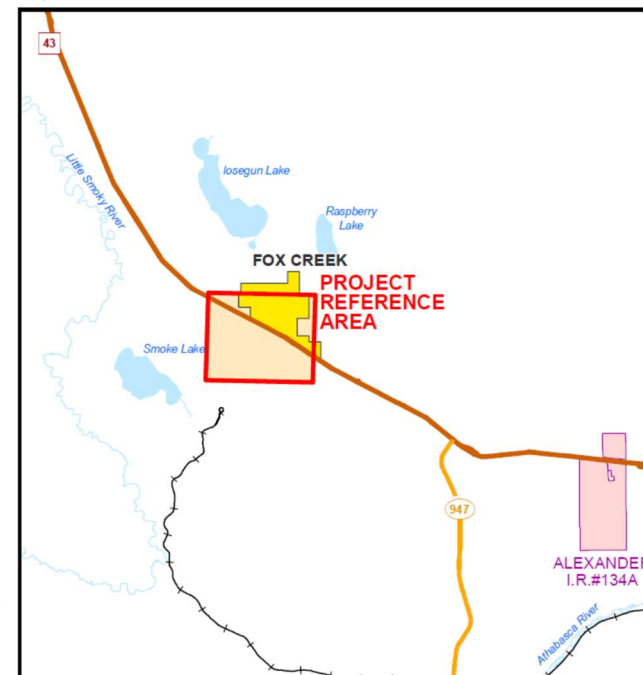
This newsletter provides you with information about electric transmission facilities being proposed in your area. This package provides important project information and outlines our public consultation process. We invite any comments, questions, or concerns you may have.

The proposed ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO) Kiwetinohk Opal Transmission Project (the Project) will be located in Fox Creek, Alberta and will connect a customer's new generation facility to the electrical grid.

If approved, the Project will include the construction of approximately two kilometres (km) of single-circuit 144 kilovolt (kV) transmission line (to be called 7LA199) which will connect the customer's substation to the existing 240 kV transmission line 7L199 in a T-tap configuration.

The Project also requires modifications to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L199 to accommodate the connection of proposed transmission line 7LA199. Approximately 500 meters of the line will be relocated, and seven km will be upgraded in the existing alignment. Please refer to the technical details and proposed route mosaic map for further details.

If you are in the direct vicinity of the planned facilities, ATCO will contact you in the coming weeks.



PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Project Need

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) is an independent, not-for-profit organization responsible for the safe, reliable and economic planning and operation of the provincial transmission grid. For more information about why this project is needed, please refer to the AESO's Need Overview included with this package or visit www.aeso.ca.

If you have any questions or concerns about the need for this project or the proposed transmission development to meet the need, you may contact the AESO directly. You can also make your questions or concerns known to an ATCO representative who will collect your personal information for the purpose of addressing your questions and/ or concerns to the AESO. This process may include disclosure of your personal information to the AESO.

Included in this package

- Technical details
- Route mosaic map
- AESO Need Overview
- AUC Brochure: *Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications*
- Reply form and postage paid envelope

LOCAL BENEFITS



The Process

Our research indicates that you are in the vicinity of the proposed route concept for the Kiwetinohk Opal Transmission Project.

In the coming weeks, if you have an interest in lands located on or beside the proposed route, you will be contacted by an ATCO representative to further discuss the project and to address any questions or concerns you may have. You can also provide feedback and share other information using the enclosed reply form and postage paid envelope.

Consultation with landholders routinely leads to improvements on our projects. We have adjusted project plans as a result of feedback and conversations with landholders.

When consultations have been completed, ATCO will submit a facility application to the Alberta Utilities Commission to obtain approval for the construction and operation of the proposed facilities.

Transmission Routes

Prior to consultation with landholders, ATCO considers numerous constraints including:

- Environmentally sensitive areas
- Wetlands
- Planned developments
- Quarter and section lines
- Construction and engineering constraints
- Other special consideration (i.e. access roads)
- Existing infrastructure (i.e. other transmission lines, roads, highways, pipelines, telecommunication towers)

The enclosed map shows the proposed route for this project. Facilities have been located in an effort to minimize impacts to industrial operations, while also minimizing potential impacts to the environment.

The Right-of-Way

The term right-of-way refers to the area a transmission line uses including areas on either side of the line. Rights-of-way must have a minimum width to ensure safety and ongoing access for maintenance.

For safety reasons, some general restrictions on the use of the land in direct vicinity of the transmission line may apply. These include setbacks for development.

Details including width and position of the right-of-way will depend on the type and size of the required structure, existing land use, surrounding features and other factors.

The right-of-way will follow property boundaries, if feasible, and in some situations, will follow existing features like a road, pipeline or another powerline.

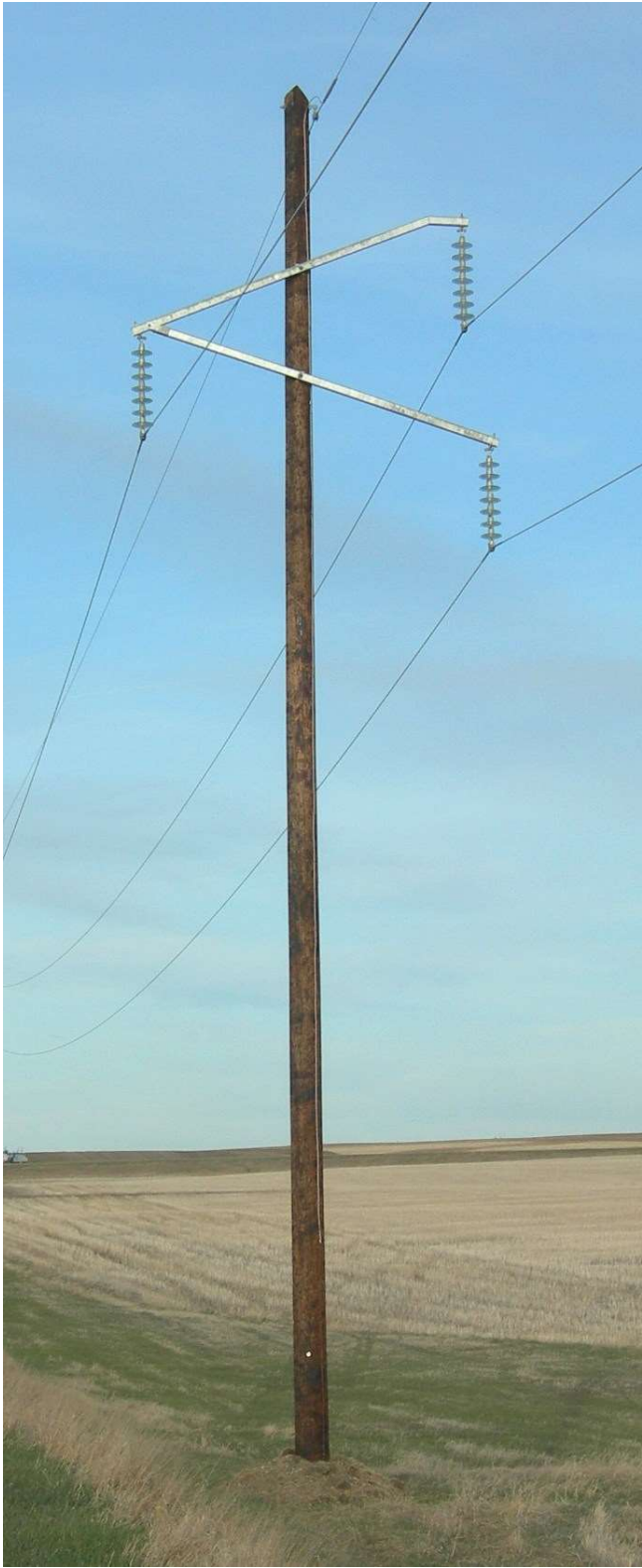
The typical width of the right-of-way for this project is 18 metres.

Once a proposed route has been submitted to the AUC, ATCO begins coordinating agreements with the landholders to acquire right-of-way. Once a right-of-way is constructed, landholders continue to use the right-of-way subject to the terms of agreements made between the landholder and ATCO.

Access Trails and Temporary Workspace

Access trails may be required in areas where terrain conditions or the presence of wetlands make driving along the right-of-way impractical. In some situations, access trails will be temporary. Permanent access trails may be needed for ongoing maintenance in some areas.

In addition, temporary workspace may be required along the edge of the right-of-way and in other selected locations. The exact location of temporary workspaces has yet to be determined. Arrangements for temporary workspace will be discussed and negotiated with landholders individually.



THE SCHEDULE



PUBLIC CONSULTATION
a continuous process that occurs throughout the life of the project

The Technical Details

June 2023

KIWETINOHK OPAL TRANSMISSION PROJECT

The technical details of facilities associated with the Kiwetinohk Opal Transmission Project are described in this fact sheet. Designs may vary as plans are finalized.



New 144 kV Transmission Line 7LA199

Approximately two km of new single-circuit 144 kV transmission line (to be called 7LA199).



Existing 144 kV Transmission Line 7L199

Modifications to the existing single-circuit 144 kV transmission line 7L199.

THE DETAILS

If approved, the new 144 kV transmission line 7LA199 will consist of:

- Three bundled conductor wires
- Wood pole 'Wishbone' structures
- One optical ground wire

Transmission line 7LA199 will connect to existing transmission line 7L199 in a T-tap configuration and terminate at the customer's substation. The typical structure is described in more detail on the back of this fact sheet.

THE DETAILS

If approved, the modifications will include rebuilding approximately seven km of existing transmission line 7L199 to accommodate new conductor wires. The line will be rebuilt in the existing alignment with a similar structure type (wood pole 'Wishbone' structures).

Additionally, ATCO plans to salvage approximately 500 m of existing transmission line 7L199 and relocate it in a new alignment to accommodate the T-tap connection of proposed transmission line 7LA199.

What It Will Look Like

If approved by the AUC, the new 144 kV transmission line will be built with wood pole 'Wishbone' structures similar to the one shown here.

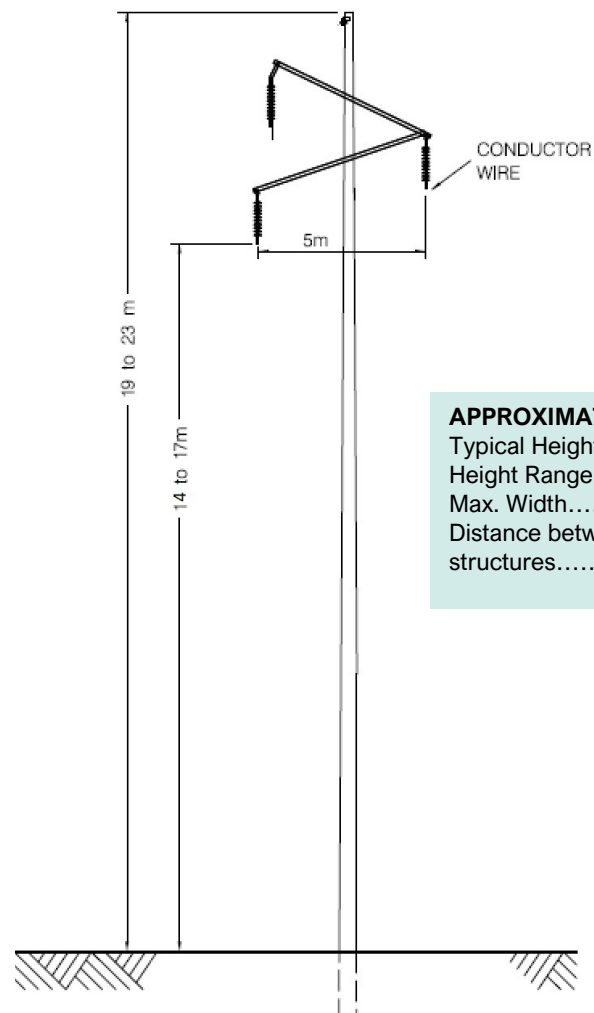
Structures will be single-circuit. This means they will have three sets of conductor wires strung across them, plus one optical ground wire. The typical distance between structures will be approximately 140 m.

Non-typical structures may be taller in height or have wider bases.

Guy wires and anchors may be required where the line ends, bends, goes around corners or avoids obstacles. In all cases, minimum clearance will meet or exceed provincial safety regulations.

Typical right-of-way for this project is 18 m. Rights-of-way are cleared of trees, brush and debris to allow access for construction and ongoing maintenance.

Note: Details may change as the project develops and designs are finalized.



APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS

Typical Height... 19 m
Height Range.... 14 – 23 m
Max. Width..... 5 m
Distance between structures..... 140 m

Typical right-of-way for this project – 18 metres

Definitions

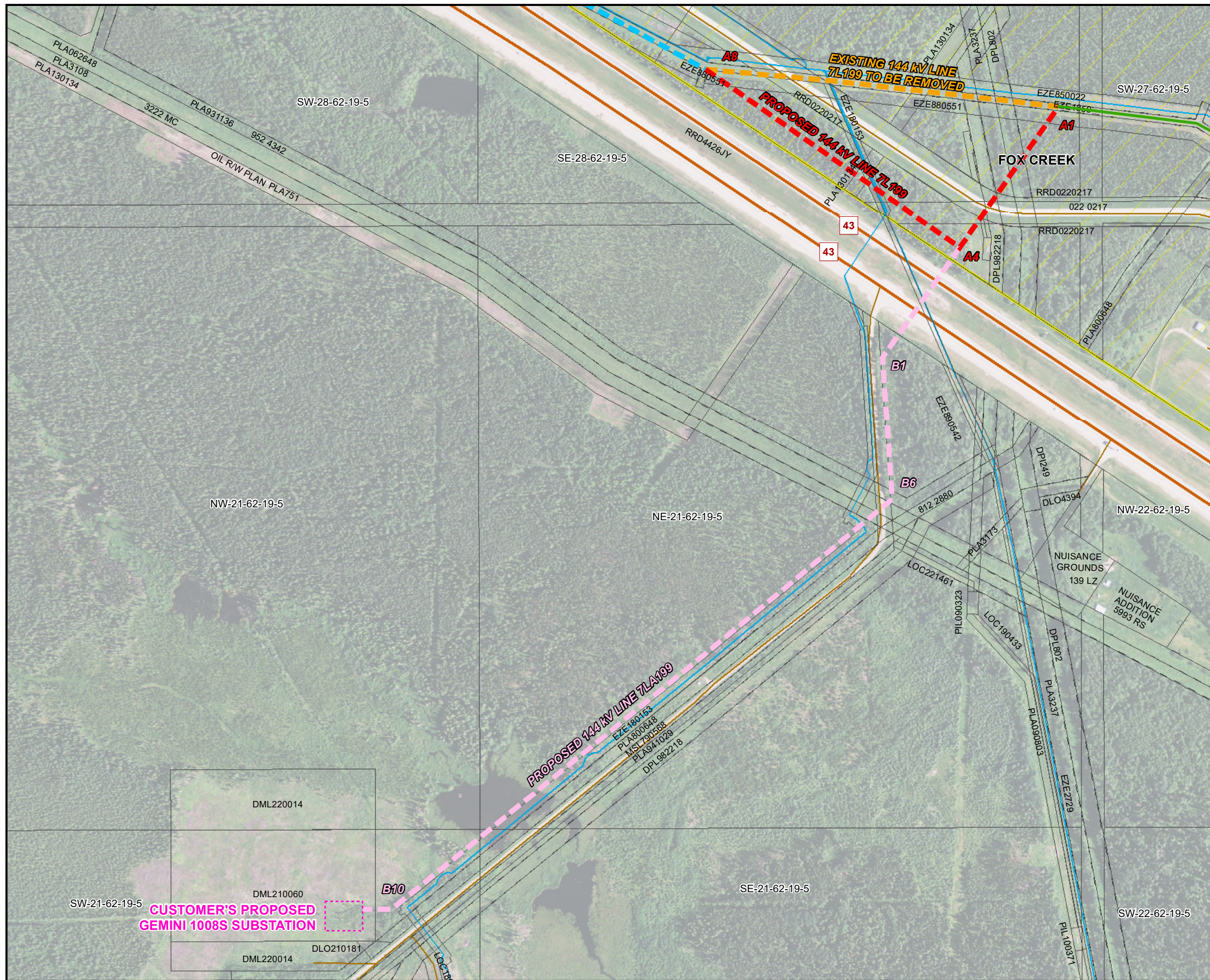
Circuit: A circuit is a group of wires electricity flows through. ATCO's transmission lines can be single or double circuit. A single-circuit line has three wires and a double-circuit line has six. A transmission line may also have one or two shield wires on the top of the structures to protect the line from lightning.

Consultation: A consultation is a meeting where advice, information and views are exchanged.

Kilovolt (kV): A kilovolt is equal to one thousand volts. This unit of measurement is most commonly used when describing transmission and distribution lines. Distribution and transmission lines in Alberta carry between 4-kV (4,000 volts) and 500-kV (500,000 volts).

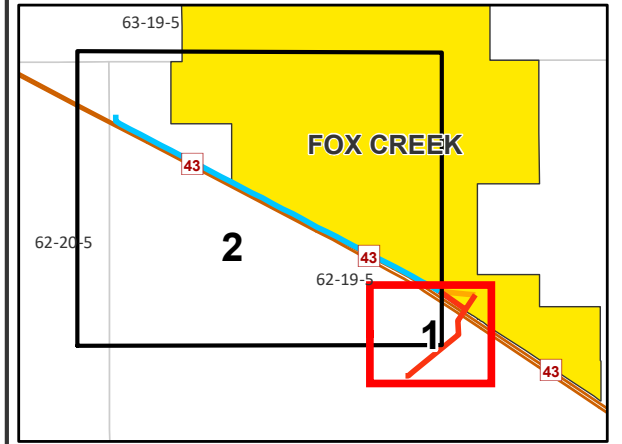
Right-of-way: A right-of-way is the use of a strip of land acquired for the construction and operation of a transmission line. The term right-of-way is also used to refer to the physical space a transmission line encompasses including areas on either side of the line.

Termination: A termination is the point where a power line ends and connects to a substation.

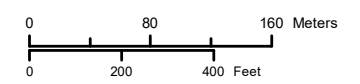


- A1 B1** Proposed Route Node
- Proposed 144 kV Transmission Line Route
 - Proposed 144 kV Transmission Line Route Alteration
 - Existing 144 kV Transmission Line To Be Altered
 - Existing 144 kV Transmission Line To Be Removed
 - Customer's Substation Fence Boundary
 - Existing 144 kV Transmission Line
 - Existing Distribution Line
 - Primary Highway
 - Road
 - Town
 - Existing Easement Right of Way
 - Parcel Boundary
 - Current Disposition

CREDIT NOTES
 Alberta Data Partnerships, Government of Alberta, IHS Markit, Valtus Imagery Service 2014



INDEX MAP



NOTES:
 - Only facilities in the vicinity of the project are shown.

This map is the property of ATCO. This map is not intended to be used in place of Alberta One Call. Always practice extreme caution when near power lines!

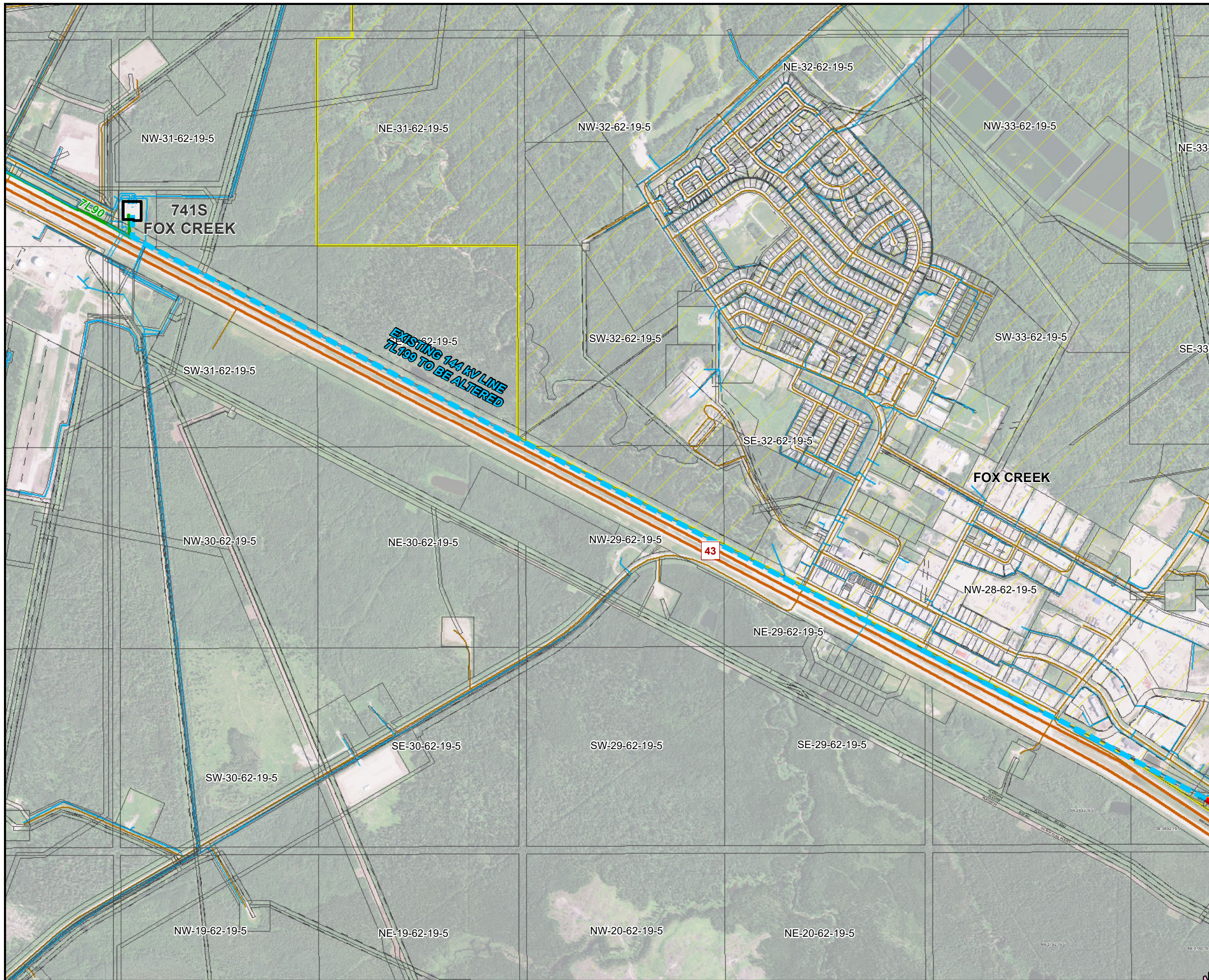


Kiwetinohk Opal Transmission Project

**PROPOSED ROUTE MOSAIC
 MAP 1 of 2**

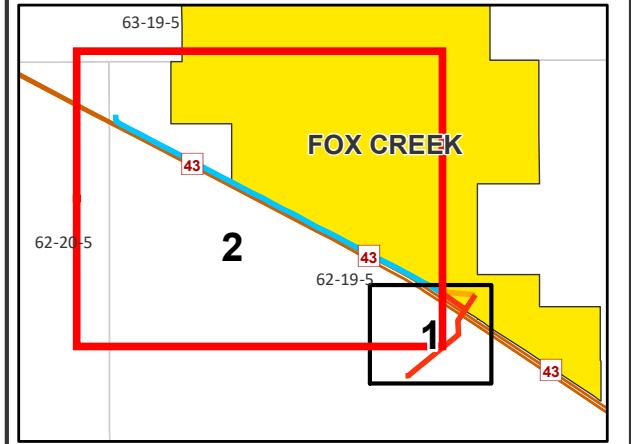
June 2023

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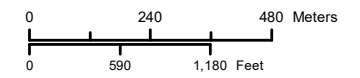


- A1 B1** Proposed Route Node
- Proposed 144 kV Transmission Line Route Alteration
 - Existing 144 kV Transmission Line To Be Altered
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 - Current Disposition

CREDIT NOTES
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Kiwetinohk Opal Transmission Project

**PROPOSED ROUTE MOSAIC
 MAP 2 of 2**

June 2023

RS-7LA199 - N1 - 01

Attachment 4 – AESO Public Notification of ANAP Consideration Posting (November 2023)

Opal Gas Project Connection (2456)

Abbreviated Needs Approval Process: Notice of Consideration

The AESO intends to consider the need for the Opal Gas Project Connection (Project) for approval under Section 501.3 of the ISO rules, *Abbreviated Needs Approval Process*, (ANAP Rule) on or after November 16, 2023. If stakeholders have any questions or concerns, please contact the AESO before this date.

The AESO has determined that the Project is eligible for consideration under the ANAP Rule because the following eligibility criteria have been met:

- Project costs are estimated to be approximately \$15M of which \$8M is classified as participant-related, and \$7M is classified as system-related in accordance with the ISO tariff;
- the AESO has completed a participant involvement program (PIP) in accordance with the guidelines in Alberta Utilities Commission Rule 007;
- the Project is not anticipated to result in significant environmental effects; and
- Stakeholder concerns or objections with the need for the Project have been addressed. Prior to making its approval decision, the AESO will address additional stakeholder concerns that arise, if any.

Supporting information about this Project is available in the following documents:

- Engineering Connection Assessment
- Cost Estimates
- PIP Summary
- Environmental and Land Use Effects Assessment

Attachment 5 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Notice of ANAP Consideration (November 1, 2023)



GRID

Opal Gas Project Connection - Abbreviated Needs Approval Process Notice of Consideration

The AESO intends to consider the need for the Opal Gas Project Connection for approval under Section 501.3 of the ISO rules, Abbreviated Needs Approval Process, (ANAP Rule) on or after November 16, 2023. If stakeholders have any questions or concerns, please contact the AESO before this date.

Kiwetinohk Energy Corp. (Kiwetinohk) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its approved Opal Gas Project (facility) in the Fox Creek area. Kiwetinohk's request can be met by the following solution:

- Add one 144 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the facility to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L199 in a T-tap configuration;
- Increase the rating of the 144 kV transmission line 7L199 between the Facility T-tap point and the existing Fox Creek 741S substation; and
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

More information is available on the AESO website. Please [click here](#) to view the project page or visit the AESO website at www.aeso.ca and follow the path Grid > Transmission Projects > Opal Gas Project Connection (2456) to see relevant supporting documents.